

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council Honors the City of Grand Rapids with Organization Award

May 25, 2018 -- The Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) has honored the City of Grand Rapids with the 2018 TAMC Organization Award. The award was presented to Assistant City Engineer, Rick DeVries and Public Services Director James Hurt by TAMC Chair Joanna Johnson and other members of the council at the 2018 Transportation Asset Management Spring Conference held Tuesday, May 22, in Traverse City, Michigan.

While presenting the award TAMC member Jon Start shared, "Of particular interest to TAMC is the extent to which agencies involve the public, their elected and/or appointed officials, and other community stakeholders in their program. The City of Grand Rapids, through the formal adoption of an Asset Management Plan for Streets and Bridges, is hereby recognized for their comprehensive approach to Asset Management implementation."

The City of Grand Rapids was chosen for this award due to their extensive involvement with stakeholders, members of the public and the City's Vital Streets Committee. Furthermore, the City of Grand Rapids has used the implementation of asset management as a driving force for infrastructure investments across streets, water and sewer, and other critical utility networks. The Asset Management Plan promotes responsible management of the city's resources, providing a mix of fixes approach to maintaining roads, bridges and other infrastructure for the next 15 years.

To further encourage Public Act 51 agencies, the TAMC established the Organization Award in 2009 to acknowledge those agencies that have incorporated the principles of asset management and adopted an asset management plan to help guide their investment decisions. In

addition, the TAMC Awards Program provides agencies around the state with excellent case examples to establish their own programs and best practices. All Public Act 51 road agencies are eligible to be nominated for this award. The city's nomination for the award was brought forth by Roger Belknap, Coordinator of the TAMC and supported by members of the TAMC and support staff at the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Transportation asset management is a process of managing public assets, such as roads and bridges, based on the long-range condition of the entire transportation system. TAMC, created in 2002 by the Michigan Legislature, promotes the concept that the transportation system is unified, rather than separated by jurisdictional ownership. Its mission is to recommend an asset management strategy to the State Transportation Commission and the Michigan Legislature for all of Michigan's roads and bridges.



James Hurt and Rick DeVries, City of Grand Rapids, receive 2018 TAMC Organization Award photo by Tim Burke, MDOT

Chair: Joanna Johnson, CRA; Vice-Chair: Bill McEntee, CRA; Bob Slattery, MML; Gary Mekjian, MML; Jon Start, MTPA; Dave Wresinski, MDOT; Brad Wieferich, MDOT; Don Disselkoen, MAC; Derek Bradshaw, MAR; Jennifer Tubbs, MTA; Rob Surber, MCSS

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